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POPULAR TALES.

THE DAUGHTER.

BY MRS. ANN S. STEPHENS.

Two heavy blows were struck on the huge brass knocker of a house in Back street rather late one evening, when that beautiful street was far less thickly inhabited than at the present day. The kitchen girl, who served as cook, chamber-maid, footman and porter, opened the door and confronted a tall, well-dressed gentleman, who inquired for the master of the house. Without a moment's delay, the stranger was ushered into the comfortable sitting room occupied by Mr. —, who laid down the Portland Gazette and removed his feet from their exalted position over the fire place to receive his visitor. There was something extremely interesting in the appearance of the stranger, his age might be about forty, but his features were handsome and stamped with a cast of settled melancholy, while his manner had that air of quiet, gentle breeding which results from a useful intercourse with men and books. He surrendered his hat to the read-handed servant, and taking the chair she had planted for him on the hearth rug, opened his business. After inquiring if Mr. — was not a stock holder in the Cumberland Bank, he stated his wish to purchase twenty shares in that institution at as low percentage as possible.

While he was speaking, the look of easy hospitality passed from the stock holder's features, which instantly changed to their usual crafty business expression—he compressed his lips, crossed one leg over the other, and drummed on the stand beside him with the air of a man debating about an offer he can well afford to refuse.

"Really, I don't know," he said with a becoming share of indifference, "stock in our bank is first rate property—if I sell twenty shares I shall want a handsome premium. How much do you expect to pay?"

The stranger replied by asking how the Cumberland stock then stood.

"High—always high," replied the other avoiding a direct answer, "ours is a safe institution—yields fine dividends—the only bank in the State that held out specie payments through the last war—shares always above par."—he was running on in praise of his hobby, but the stranger again brought him to the point, by saying that he had left a daughter at the Inn nearby, who would be anxious for his return, and that he must solicit a direct answer to his proposition.

"Well, what do you say to eight per cent?" replied the capitalist.

"That it is more than I am prepared to pay—the best stock in Boston were not more than five when I left."

"But you are from Boston, then," inquired, or rather affirmed the stock holder, losing sight of his bargain in the eagerness of his curiosity.

"The stranger calmly replied that he was.

"Come this morning in the sloop Mary Ann, I suppose?" persisted the inquirer.

"Yes," was the dry answer, which would have silenced any man born south of N. England; but Mr. —, a heavy stock holder in a wealthy State Bank, had a comfortable sense of his own importance. What is money good for if it will not enable its possessor to be ill bread when he pleases? Nothing, certainly. Mr. — had an undoubted right to ask impertinent questions—he could afford it—so he went on regardless of the annoyance of his visitor.

"Brought your family, you say?"

"All that remains to me," replied the stranger in a broken voice, trembled on his lips, unregarded by his ruthless questioner, who continued—

"Probably you intend to settle in Portland?"

"No, sir."

"Back in the country, then?"

"Yes."

"On the Kennebec?"

"No, the Androscoggin."

"Why, what can such a person as you appear to be, expect to do away back in the woods?—oh, I see—you mean up there getting out lumber—fine season for logging."

The stranger saw that there were no hopes of concluding his business till he had furnished the stock holder with his history, past, present, and to come; so in a few hurried words he stated that he was a native of Maine, but had spent most of his life in Boston as a merchant—that he had amassed a large property there, which had been greatly diminished by the villainy of one he had trusted. His voice faltered as he went on to say, that his wife and two children had died in the same year, leaving him one daughter, with whom he was removing to a little farm that he had purchased in Oxford county.

The curiosity of the capitalist being satisfied he no longer hesitated to close his bargain, which was finally settled by the stranger's paying two thousand one hundred and twenty dollars—we like to be particular in money matters—for which he received the requisite twenty shares of stock in the good old Cumberland Bank. Mr. — politely attended his visitor to the door, and, wishing him a good evening returned to the sitting room. He took up the roll of bank bills he had just received, looked them all over carefully, counted them three times, and then deposited them in an old black wallet with the comfortable smile of a successful bargainer.

Meanwhile the stranger made his way to Peck's tavern, still to be found, but with other occupants, at the corner of Main and Beaver streets. He entered a private room where he had left his daughter, a delicate girl of fourteen. She was in deep mourning, and her glossy curls, almost as black as her dress, were confined back by a circular comb of wrought shell, and drooped over her neck and shoulders as she began with a willowy gracefulness toward the fire; her tiny hands clasped on her knee and her large dark eyes fixed mournfully on the blaze. Tears were streaming unheeded down her cheeks and fell like a shower of rain into her lap, and she was too much absorbed to notice the entrance of her father till he had almost reached the low stool on which she was seated. Hastily drawing her hand over her eyes and shaking her curls forward in a vain endeavor to hide her tearful cheeks, she arose and stood before him as if detected in some evil. Mr. Suthgate seated himself and drawing the beautiful child to his knee inquired if his absence had seemed tedious; and then, seeing the tears on her face, he pressed her to his bosom, and as he kissed her, said in a tone of gentle chiding,

"Shame, Grace, your eyes are full of tears—surely you were not afraid to stay alone."

"No, pa, but—" she hesitated, and the tears again sprang to her eyes.

"But what, child?"

"I was thinking of ma and of all she said to me that night, and I cried for fear that I could not do all she wished; she told me to fill her place—to be all that she had been to you; but oh, pa, I never, never can be so good!"—and the motherless girl threw her arms about her father's neck and sobbed on his bosom to which he pressed her, while his tears rained over her head, and a prayer was swelling his heart—a prayer, giving, that when the blossom of his happy

ness was blasted, a bud was left in its place so full of purity and rich promise.

"Pa," said the young orphan, raising her innocent face from the paternal bosom, "do you think ma can hear me now when I promise to obey her wishes as near as I can?—it seems to me sometimes, when I kneel to any my prayers, as if I could feel her breath on my forehead as she whispers prayerful words into my heart—then I close my eyes, and strange, sweet thoughts seem rising and turning to words, till I can scarcely utter them for happiness—and then there is such a still contented feeling comes over me—father, am I wicked, am I forgetful, because I do not feel so sorry that poor ma is dead at such times?"

"No my sweet child, it is the balm which God himself administers to the broken heart but for such merciful comfortings your father too must have sunk to the grave. But sit down and listen to me, Grace—you know nothing of the life we are to lead in our new habitation. It was your sainted mother's request that you should be removed from the city to the quiet of a country life, where you should become the pupil of your father and take upon you such charges as will serve to render you useful in the humble lot my broken spirits and impoverished fortune has left to us—Grace, can you cheerfully undertake the hardships of a life so monotonous?"

"I can, father," replied the gentle child, raising the moist eyes she had inherited from her lost mother to his face, with the confidence of a pure heart untried in the struggles of life. Again she was pressed to her father's bosom, and again he thanked God that so much happiness was left to him.

Early the next morning Mr. Suthgate and his daughter started on their journey to the interior. At Paris they left the public conveyance and proceeded in a hired chaise. As they penetrated into the country toward Woodstock, the scenery, hitherto cultivated and pastoral, swelled gradually into irregular hills, broken occasionally into huge precipices, thrusting their granite crags through their covering of underwood and forest trees. As they proceeded spots of picturesque grandeur broke upon the view at every turn of the road. Now our travellers were in the depths of a valley, and then a bleak precipice shot its cliffs over their heads as they wound up the brow of a hill, while the waters of a mountain lake lay sleeping beneath them, in the dense shadow thrown by an unbroken rocky causway frowning on the opposite shore, surrounded by a cumber of blasted trees, and appearing like a close file of dusky giants, each brandishing his spear against the sky. In these wild hills the cross roads were rough and dangerous. More than once Mr. Suthgate and poor Grace were obliged to leave the chaise and pick their way through the stones choking the road, not unfrequently bounding down the steep, loosened by the horse, in his struggle for a sure foothold, as he toiled on with the empty chaise. The day was waning when our travellers reached the end of their journey. For more than an hour they had run along the very summit of a hill, exceedingly broken by commanding a fine view of the country. Suddenly it swept back from an eminence running parallel, and the road turned sharply down into a little valley of some twenty acres. Through a chasm between the two hills a mountain stream dashed in a sheet of foam to the valley, and wound in a considerable body through an opening in the north. Just in the core of a hill stood a small, neatly finished house, with a meadow spreading its green bosom in front, and a small garden, hedged by rows of currant bushes and cherry trees, both ruddy with fruit, stretching to a precipice at the back. Mr. Suthgate checked his horse at the bend of the road, and pointing to the valley as it lay, serene and beautiful, in the bosom of the hills, said,

"There, Grace, is our farm—look at it—then look abroad, and say if the whole is not even more beautiful than I have described it."

Grace bent eagerly forward, and for some moments remained breathlessly gazing on the sublime scenery around her. Lesser delicacies than the one on which they stood, were swelling away on either side like a succession of broken waves, till their undulating surface lost in the distant landscape, spreading away to the horizon in a sea of forest trees. Cultivated farms occasionally broke the monotonous foliage of a hill side, or smiled in the valleys like spots of joy in the waste of life; while here and there stupendous fragments of rock appeared like the battlements of a darker world, their sides dashed sparingly with stunted trees, dead pines bristling up their naked sides, and the green monoliths of the forest crowding to their feet as if to do them homage. The sun was on the verge of the horizon, showering its "powdered gold" over a portion of the west, and melting into purple twilight over the still bosom of the forest. Regardless of fatigue the father and daughter sat gazing upon the scene, wrapped in the mournful thoughts which so naturally steal upon the mind when the day is expiring. Neither spoke for both were thinking of her who had been the sun of their little world.

"Halloo, there—what's the difficulty?" inquired a lusty farmer, riding up the hill with a bag of new ground meal thrown across his horse by way of saddle, "halloo—dear your horse shy, or have you lost a mulch?"

Mr. Suthgate took up the reins, and answering that nothing was the matter, was proceeding down the hill—but his horse came on a level with him, and drew back a parley.

"Rather queer," he said, "I've seen that horse of yours afore, haven't I?—don't he belong on Paris Hill?"

Mr. Suthgate replied that he did.

"So, it's on't the first time; any news stirrin'?"

Mr. Suthgate replied that he knew of none.

"Belong in Paris Hill, ha?"

"No, in Boston."

"Boston! why you ain't the man that's bought Mr. Dean's place down below here, are you?"

"Yes, I have purchased the farm at the foot of the hill."

"Wal, how I thought so—glad to see you, Mr. Suthgate; that's your name they tell me; hope you'll be neighborly; I live in the black house you've just past, and the good heated fellow reached over and shook Mr. Suthgate's hand, as if he had been swinging flax for a wagger; then resuming his perpendicular position on the meal bag, he continued,

"I bat's your daughter, I s'pose?"

"Yes, my only child."

"I've got one just about her age—I'll send her over to scrape acquaintance to her—your'll find my oldest girl waitin' for you."

Grace smiled gently, and said she should be happy to see his daughter.

"Yes, I warrant you'll be like two peas in a pod—you'll find all your things in order, Mr. Suthgate—we went down and helped unload the goods night afore last—they are all put up just as you wrote; if there's any thing more to do I'll ride back with you."

Mr. Suthgate thanked him for his kindness, and declined troubling him.

"Wal, good night then—if any thing's wanted you'll know where to send—my name's Hinnman;—then the kind farmer settled himself on his meal bag, and admonishing his horse with his stirrupless foot trotted leisurely toward home, while his new neighbors proceeded to their habitation."

As Mr. Hinnman had taught them to expect, they found his daughter waiting their arrival, and after a slight supper Grace received her father's kiss and went to her little chamber. Her heart swelled as she entered it. The furniture was that of her bed chamber was on the bed—and the night wind came through the small open sashes laden with the breath of wild flowers, and played with its invisible fingers among the snowy folds of the same muslin curtains that had draped her windows at home.

"How very, very good it was in dear pa to think of bringing all these things here," were the grateful thoughts with which the young girl sunk to sleep.

Mr. Suthgate had selected the occupation of a farmer as that in which he should close his life; but with his new station he still retained all the refinements of his former one. His was an intellect that never could become subservient to the propensities; benevolence and true religion seemed a ruling portion of his nature, and he had sought the quiet of a country life, rather from a disinclination to remain longer in a pursuit, which too often debases all the faculties of the soul into an accordance with the one great passion for gain, than because his fallen fortunes had rendered retirement absolutely necessary. He had transported to his remote farm such of his household goods as were most associated with the memory of his deceased wife. The library out of which they had read together—the gloves from which they had given lessons to their child—the mathematical instruments whose use they had studied—the piano she had touched—all were placed in the little parlor which, with a kitchen, bed room and porch, constituted the lower part of the house.

Sarah Hinnman, a good natured girl perfectly at home in all the branches of housewifery, remained several weeks with her new neighbors, in order to instruct the inexperienced Grace in her various duties; then the father and daughter were left to the quiet enjoyment of their home. Three years had passed away and time had yielded its balm to the hearts of the widower and orphan, yet had wrought but little change in the person of Mr. Suthgate. If his ample forehead was not quite so smooth and white, the glow of a contented spirit broke over it with a compensating lustre, and the few additional lines about his mouth told nothing from the heart.

His face was slightly sunburnt, and his hands embrowned with labor; but a robust form, with habits cheerful and healthy, had taken the place of his former pale and melancholy expression of countenance, and the gentle Grace never once thought of the hardness of his hand when it was laid in blessing on her head.

The change that had come over Grace Suthgate was beautiful. She had gained but little in height, but her form was more gracefully rounded, her hair more abundant, and her clear white cheek dimpled sweetly when she smiled; while her lips, like ripe strawberries in brightness and color, took away the appearance of ill health, which her perfect whiteness might otherwise have conveyed. Pure in person and more pure in mind was Grace Suthgate; and it was beautiful to see her, after performing the labor of her little household, draw a stool to her father's feet, even as she had done when a child; and, with a knitting work in her hand, and a book open on her knee, spend the long, winter evening in adding to her stock of mental wealth; now and then laying down her work and leaning on her father's knee, with her sweet eyes raised to his, as he explained a passage which had puzzled her. Every night since her mother's death had the good girl prayed, that she might be enabled to fulfil the duties that death had imposed on her youth; and every day Mr. Suthgate felt more strongly the benevolence of God in granting him a child so lovely and so good, to cheer the solitude of his heart.

She was in him a companion child and friend, strengthening her intellect to meet his, and drinking with avidity the moral or scientific lessons he loved to teach her. It was scarcely possible for two persons to be thrown more completely on each other for happiness, yet they never lacked resources. Together they planted their little garden with vegetables and flowers, honeysuckles were taught to trail over their parlor window, red and white roses formed a little wilderness about the house, and a young apple orchard, at the foot of the meadow, gave rich promise of fruit in after summers.

Mr. Hinnman, who was their nearest neighbor, lived a mile distant over the hill; and about three miles from the outlet of the valley was a cluster of four or five houses, a grist mill and a store.

A few months after their arrival in the valley, Sarah Hinnman had been married and had removed from the neighborhood; while Nancy, the younger daughter, fully verified her father's prediction, by showing her rosy face at Mr. Suthgate's, at least twice each week. One morning Nancy came running down the steep beyond the house, with her bonnet hanging by the strings and flying out behind and her large hazel eyes dancing with delight.

"Grace—Grace Suthgate! where are you?" she exclaimed, running from one room to another till she found the object of her search in the porch, moulding and stamping delicate little cakes from a heap of golden butter lying in a tray before her—"Oh, I'm so tired—I'm so happy—who do you think has come?"

"I am sure I cannot tell, Nancy."

"Well, guess—guess."

"Well, your sister and her husband."

"No, James, brother James—and he has not been at home before in six years—you can't think how handsome he is—his hair is all combed up in the tip of the mode, and his coat reaches almost to his heels, and shines just like satin; and

then he has got such a proud pert kind of way, just as all the gentle folks have;—I'm so glad I could jump over the house,"—and the happy girl began to dance around the room like a crazy creature; then pulling her bonnet over her head she darted away, saying, "Well, I must go, for I am away, just to tell you that James and I are coming down here; he says he's failed in business, and is going to stay at home all winter; but I'll tell the rest when I come again, so be ready for us, for he takes a great deal of notice, I can tell you."

Before she had finished her speech the restless girl was half way down the meadow leaving Grace to her conjectures about the time of the promised visit. Of James Hinnman she had never heard, except when Nancy, with pardonable vanity, occasionally boasted of her brother, the merchant, in Boston. In truth there was little known of his recent life, even by his own family. He had left home in his nineteenth year, because his industrious father had reproached him for idleness on the farm. Nothing was heard of him until nearly three years had passed, when a letter came, stating that he occupied the station of clerk in a dry goods store in Boston. Another year elapsed, and then came a second, written in a bold flourishing hand, and announcing the fact that Mr. Hinnman's son had become a merchant.

There was a tone of consequential arrogance running through Mr. James Hinnman's epistle, by no means palatable to his honest father. He wrote patronizingly to the whole family; was removing his unmarried sister to the city, that she might be accomplished; and hoped that his father would not think of visiting him, without first providing himself with a new suit of broadcloth, as he assured him that his "best coat" would be sadly out of fashion in Boston. "This was the unkindest cut of all. Mr. Hinnman could bear that his son should be idle and run away; but that he should seldom write and never visit home; but when he presumed to insinuate that his blue coat was not exactly the thing—the venerable garment that had performed duty on his wedding day, and clothed his broad shoulders every Sabbath, to say nothing of town meeting and musters days, for the last twenty five years—when James Hinnman dared to do this, the father was convinced that he must be utterly degenerate, and with a heavy heart he prepared to ascertain the facts of his son's situation. Early one morning his horse was brought to the door, and an epistle of saddle-bags thrown over his back, with one end stuffed with a box of baked beans, six dozen dough-nuts and a lump of cheese for the man. Mr. Hinnman shook hands with his wife and daughter, tried the stirrup with his foot, and raised himself cautiously to his seat on the saddle bags; then taking a bundle from his wife, which contained the aforesaid wedding coat, with other things to match, he swung it on his arm; and with his nether limbs snugly cushioned against the oats and dough-nuts, started in a sober trot for Boston.

The events of Hinnman's journey were never made public; but it was observed that he never hosted of his son after his return, and that he hated every thing in the shape of a dandy. When the hopeful youth returned home, and announced his intention of remaining there for an indefinite space of time, giving for a reason that his business had been ruined and his property lost by the villainy of a partner. Mr. Hinnman answered bluntly, that he was welcome to stay at home so long as he behaved himself—but as for the story about loss of property he did not believe a word of it, inasmuch as Jim had never been worth a dollar in his life nor never was like to be unless he changed his ways.

It was nearly evening, on the same day that Nancy Hinnman had announced her brother's arrival, when she called with him to pay their promised visit. During their walk the young gentleman edified his sister with an account of some dozen of the most fashionable ladies in Boston, who had evinced unequivocal symptoms of attachment to him, but to none of whom, had he deigned to give the least encouragement. The innocent Nancy, fully impressed with her brother's importance, began to tremble for her friend, who she was certain must become the thirteenth victim to the inevitable attractions which had already done so much execution. But, to her surprise, Grace was by no means so completely captivated as she had anticipated. She had seen too many of the really high bred during her mother's life time not to feel an instinctive repugnance to the second hand airs and underbred pretensions which characterized James Hinnman; and from the period of his first visit while in his company, which she condemned as uncharitable, yet could not entirely overcome. Not so with the gentleman; whatever had been his cruelty to the ladies, he seemed by no means inclined to practice any in his intercourse with the beautiful country girl. He haunted her like her shadow, broke in upon her walks, obtruded himself upon her during avocations, and entirely broke up the pleasant evenings she had delighted to spend with her father. These intrusions but served to confirm Grace in her dislike, and to render his society an evil which she struggled to bear patiently.

One morning in the early part of June, about a month after young Hinnman's arrival, he called at Mr. Suthgate's with an offering of flowers, as ill assorted as his own character. Grace accepted them, and saw him depart with the earliest hope that his visit would not be repeated; that day a pleasant shower came up in the afternoon which confined Mr. Suthgate to the house. Before the tea things were removed from the parlor the rain had abated. Grace drew her father's seat to one of the front windows and opened the sash, that he might enjoy the delicious

air as it came up from its revelry among the wild flowers. Their little farm would have made a beautiful picture as it lay outspread before them. The meadow with its springing grass, sloping gently from the door, gemmed all over with rain drops and with a profusion of dandelions, that had unfolded their golden crowns at the first patter of the shower. The river's brink was blue with violets, and the opposite hill towered against the sky clothed in the pale green foliage of spring, broken by the snowy blossoms of the hawthorn, or the crimson buds of the white oak as they blushed into life. The swollen waterfall foamed onward to its outlet, and a dozen mountain streams, children of the storm, maddened music as they left their caverns, tossing their spray, scattering foam like snow flakes on the green moss, and dashing from cliff to cliff down the face of the hill. A rain bow flung its brilliant arch from east to west just over the waterfall, and the black clouds, rolling in solemn grandeur to the horizon, melted away into fleecy billows as the sun poured its light upon them.

"Oh, how she would have enjoyed this," muttered Mr. Suthgate drawing his hand across his wet eyes.

Grace threw her arms around his neck and whispered in a voice that was thrillingly sweet when she deeply felt, "Yes, father, but how much greater must her enjoyment be in the brighter scenes to which she is gone; or how do we know that her pure spirit may not be here, communing with ours even now? I have often thought such things, when I have been wakeful in the still night."

Mr. Suthgate made no answer; his heart was busy with the past and he abruptly left the room. When he returned James Hinnman was seated by his daughter, and seemed to be waiting her reply to something he had been saying. His look was anxious and his manner impatient, while she seemed lost in astonishment and something very like anger; her cheeks were flushed, her eyes opened wide and her lips slightly divided like the unfolding of a rosebud. Hinnman started from his chair as Mr. Suthgate entered, and began to walk the room impatiently. Just then a knocking was heard at the door. As Mr. Suthgate left the room at the summons, Hinnman hastily approached Grace and said,

"I will call again tomorrow, and then I shall hope to receive the answer your flattering embarrassment has deprived me of."

Grace was about to speak, but that moment her father returned, followed by a young gentleman, whose features struck Grace as being yet whom she could not instantly recognize. The stranger lifted his hat from the miss of Grace, and, with a look of earnestness, extended advanced eagerly toward her. "Grace, Grace, how her hand irresolutely and looked inquiringly into his face.

"What, have you forgotten me?" exclaimed he, evidently mortified with his reception.

"My daughter can scarcely be expected to detect her old playfellow in the man before her," said Mr. Suthgate smiling as he glanced at the manly form and finely proportioned form of the stranger; "Grace, it is your cousin, Henry Blair."

The young man had his eyes fixed admiringly on his cousin as her father spoke. Instantly her features lighted up with a beautiful expression of joy, and her hand, which was still in his, warmly returned his clasp.

"I never should have recognized you," she said, "you are so much taller, and your eyes—"

she hesitated and blushed deeply, for the bright blue orbs of which she spoke, met hers with such an expression of pleasure, that somehow they confused her.

"My eyes," said he laughing so as to display the edges of a set of teeth, even and exquisitely white, "My eyes must be bad bunglers if they do not say that this is the happiest moment I have known since I used to torment you with my pranks. But I am come to live my childhood over again, if you dare venture to give me a home for a few weeks."

Grace smiled, and her father expressed his pleasure. As Blair turned to place his hat on a table his eyes fell on James Hinnman. Instantly his features underwent a change, and with a cold haughty air of recognition he passed on, without appearing to observe the hand which the other, though with evident constraint had extended.—Hinnman dropped his hand, the blood rushed over the veins on his forehead swelled with suppressed rage, and a dusky glow broke from his eyes; yet he did not for a moment lose the affected stiltedness of his manner; he lingered awhile in the room and then departed without addressing Blair.

"You have met that young man before, it would seem," observed Mr. Suthgate as Hinnman left the room.

"Yes," replied Blair, "but I certainly did not expect to meet him in the house of my mother's brother."

"But do you know ought of his character which should prevent us receiving him as a visitor?"

"Nothing from personal observation, but he is said to have swindled his partner out of a considerable amount, and his character is generally suspicious."

"I feared as much," said Mr. Suthgate thoughtfully, "yet for his father's sake we cannot change our conduct with regard to him; but take a seat, Harry, and tell us how you happened to drop in upon us so suddenly."

"Indeed I can hardly inform you, uncle. I had finished my studies, and you being my nearest relative, now that my parents are gone, I took it into my head to visit your little farm and talk over old times with my sweet cousin here—and now with your permission I will partake of the

flowers. Their little farm would have made a beautiful picture as it lay outspread before them. The meadow with its springing grass, sloping gently from the door, gemmed all over with rain drops and with a profusion of dandelions, that had unfolded their golden crowns at the first patter of the shower. The river's brink was blue with violets, and the opposite hill towered against the sky clothed in the pale green foliage of spring, broken by the snowy blossoms of the hawthorn, or the crimson buds of the white oak as they blushed into life. The swollen waterfall foamed onward to its outlet, and a dozen mountain streams, children of the storm, maddened music as they left their caverns, tossing their spray, scattering foam like snow flakes on the green moss, and dashing from cliff to cliff down the face of the hill. A rain bow flung its brilliant arch from east to west just over the waterfall, and the black clouds, rolling in solemn grandeur to the horizon, melted away into fleecy billows as the sun poured its light upon them.

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she hesitated and blushed deeply, for the bright blue orbs of which she spoke, met hers with such an expression of pleasure, that somehow they confused her.

"My eyes," said he laughing so as to display the edges of a set of teeth, even and exquisitely white, "My eyes must be bad bunglers if they do not say that this is the happiest moment I have known since I used to torment you with my pranks. But I am come to live my childhood over again, if you dare venture to give me a home for a few weeks."

Grace smiled, and her father expressed his pleasure. As Blair turned to place his hat on a table his eyes fell on James Hinnman. Instantly his features underwent a change, and with a cold haughty air of recognition he passed on, without appearing to observe the hand which the other, though with evident constraint had extended.—Hinnman dropped his hand, the blood rushed over the veins on his forehead swelled with suppressed rage, and a dusky glow broke from his eyes; yet he did not for a moment lose the affected stiltedness of his manner; he lingered awhile in the room and then departed without addressing Blair.

"You have met that young man before, it would seem," observed Mr. Suthgate as Hinnman left the room.

"Yes," replied Blair, "but I certainly did not expect to meet him in the house of my mother's brother."

"But do you know ought of his character which should prevent us receiving him as a visitor?"

"Nothing from personal observation, but he is said to have swindled his partner out of a considerable amount, and his character is generally suspicious."

"I feared as much," said Mr. Suthgate thoughtfully, "yet for his father's sake we cannot change our conduct with regard to him; but take a seat, Harry, and tell us how you happened to drop in upon us so suddenly."

"Indeed I can hardly inform you, uncle. I had finished my studies, and you being my nearest relative, now that my parents are gone, I took it into my head to visit your little farm and talk over old times with my sweet cousin here—and now with your permission I will partake of the

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cold chicken she has provided so expeditiously; and without further ceremony he seated himself by the tray of refreshments which Grace had just brought in, and to which it must be admitted he did all reasonable justice.

In the afternoon of the third day after Harry Blair's arrival, Grace went to the foot of the nearest hill to gather flowers for her parlor. After collecting a quantity of violets from a grassy knoll, she was attracted by a wild cherry tree growing a little farther up the steep. She clambered to it and was breaking off some of its snowy blossoms, when a stone came rolling down the hill and lodged in a bush close by her side.

Startled from her employment, Grace looked up and saw James Hinman standing just above her. He sprang to her side and in his smooth silky manner apologized for not having called as he had promised to receive her answer to his proposals. Grace at first felt something like alarm at his sudden appearance, but collecting her thoughts she mildly but firmly refused the hand which had been confidently offered her on the day of the shower. Hinman stood for a moment after she had done speaking, evidently striving to subdue some strong passion struggling for utterance.

"I hope I am not to consider this answer as decisive," he at length said in a constrained voice.

"I can give no other now or ever," replied Grace firmly.

"I know to whom I must impute this refusal," said he, suddenly giving loose to his anger; then moving fiercely a step forward he seized Grace by the wrist, and fixing his gleaming eyes on her face, said, "Grace Sutgate, tell me word for word what that upstart, Blair, said of me last Monday afternoon."

The poor girl trembled and turned pale, for the expression of his face was savage; but before she could answer, the bushes above them were rudely parted, and her cousin, with a vigorous bound, planted himself face to face with her assailant.

"A villain!" he exclaimed, seizing him by the collar, and shaking him as if he were an infant in his hands, "a villain, I said you were that!" he repeated, just as Hinman drew his hand back to give him a blow.

Blair saw the motion, and with a dexterous movement lifted the wretch from his feet and hurled him down the hill. The descent was not above seven feet, but he rolled some distance into the meadow, so powerful had been the impetus given. For a moment he lay like one dead; then slowly rising, he came close to the brink of the underwood. His face was ashy pale, a slight foam on his lips, and his eyes gleamed like those of a rattlesnake. He shook his clenched hand at Blair, who was supporting the frightened maiden, and said in a low, hissing voice, that sounded scarcely human, "Henry Blair, I will be revenged!" then he turned, and passing along the skirts of the hill went up the road which led to his father's house.

The next six weeks had its history, but we shall not record it, holding it almost to sacrilege to lay bare the workings of a heart so pure as that of Grace Sutgate. It was an epoch in the history of her feelings; she was sad, she knew it, and thrillingly happy without studying the cause. The gentle girl loved her cousin, Harry Blair, nor had she "unsought been won."

One glorious morning when the hills were all in sun, Mr. Sutgate and Henry Blair equipped themselves for a day's shooting among the hills. While his uncle was preparing the shot bags and powder flasks, the young man joined Grace, who was trying to fasten up a honey-suckle, which had been broken down by the weight of its own luxuriance, and now lay trailing its red blossoms in the grass.

"Cousin," said Henry, as he stood half concealed by the mass of foliage he was holding up for her to secure, "Cousin, you know what we were speaking of last night; may I mention the subject to your father while we are away?"

Grace began to tremble—the knot she was tying slipped, and down came the honeysuckle with all its wreath of blossoms on the suppliant's head. Grace laughed and blushed, and tried to extirpate him; but somehow as her hands wandered among the leaves one of them was taken prisoner.

"Say yes, or I never will forgive you," exclaimed Henry with a voice broken with laughter. "The little hand struggled to free itself. He grasped it tighter. 'Speak, Grace, say yes, do, I entreat you.' He began to grow serious. The girl blushed deeper than before. She was glad that he could not see her as she uttered the required monosyllable, while he, the rogue, had his sparkling eyes fixed on her all the while, from an opening in the blossoms.

There never was a happier fellow than Henry Blair, as he shouldered his gun that morning and followed his uncle to the hills, but Grace was a little nervous all day. She did not doubt that her father would sanction the proposal her cousin had made her, still there was an uneasy flutter at her heart, which left her cheeks in a continued glow when she thought of their return. She had just finished her preparations for tea when James Hinman abruptly entered the house. He too had evidently been on the hills, for he held a rifle in his hand. Grace had not spoken with him since his affray with her cousin, and was naturally a little terrified at his appearance. He smiled scornfully as he observed her pallid cheek, and sitting down his gun stood directly before her.

"Grace Sutgate," he said in a bitter tone, "I have come to ask you for the last time—will you marry me?"

"I have answered that question when more mildly propounded," replied the maiden with dignity, "and though your manner does not deserve that even a refusal should be repeated, I say in any that I never will."

Hinman broke into a low mocking laugh.

"You did not answer Blair then," he said, fixing his malicious eyes on her for a moment; then taking up his rifle he left the house as abruptly as he had entered it.

Grace was slightly terrified, but she was ignorant of the length of evil to which the human heart may go, and soon regained her composure. Her tea was ready, and with a housekeeper's natural anxiety, she seated herself by a window

to watch for the return of the sportsmen. A foot path wound down the opposite hill, and the body of a large tree formed a rustic bridge across the river connecting that path with one leading to the house. She had been watching some time when he appeared. They were some distance apart; one stood on a rock near the foot of the hill, and the other occupied a projection a little to the right. Both were preparing to discharge their pieces. Grace supposed the one on the rock to be her cousin, as he wore the fur cap which had distinguished Blair in the morning; the other she had no doubt was her father. She saw him lift his rifle to his shoulder; but while he was settling his aim a bird fluttered by the window and diverted her attention. That moment came the loud report of the discharged rifle, followed by a sharp cry. Grace sprang to her feet and saw her cousin stagger back, reel to and fro for a moment, and then fall heavily from the rock. The poor girl stood still as if death had frozen her to marble; the blood ran cold in her veins, her eyes were fixed in horror on the body, and it seemed as if she could hear the crackling of the brushwood, as it rolled slowly down the hill almost to the brink of the river. It lay motionless—the white lips of the poor girl parted—she drew a long, sobbing breath and sprang forward. Her feet seemed scarcely to touch the ground as she passed through the meadow, and then darted over the log that spanned the river. The body lay a few paces farther on. Blood was on the clothes, and several drops stained one of the hands which fell loose and nerveless on the grass. One step more and she saw the face—it was her father's! Harry Blair was bending over him—his face was deadly pale, his limbs shook, and he was making ineffectual attempts to open the vest of the prostrate man. A little back stood James Hinman. He too was pale and seemed much agitated. A desperate calmness came over the orphan—she stooped down and laid her hand on the heart of her parent—there was no motion. "He is dead!" dropped in measured words from her marble lips, and still she gazed on. Suddenly she stood upright, and looking wildly from Blair to Hinman, exclaimed, "One of you killed him!" then stepping before the latter, she fixed her keen look on him and said, "James Hinman, it was you!"

Hinman shrunk back and turned pale, but still found words to deny the charge.

"Do not deny the crime, do not, I saw it all—the gun was lifted even while I looked—you stood there by that blasted tree."

"There is the murderer," said Hinman pointing to Blair, who sat on a fragment of rock by the body, with his face buried in his hands through which tears were gushing, broken by convulsive sobs, while his whole frame was shaken with terrible anguish.

Even at that fearful moment there was a gleam of satisfaction in Hinman's eye. Grace made no answer—the stony calmness of her features relaxed, and she fell senseless at the feet of her murdered father.

[CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

[From the Eastern Argus.]

THE MIDDLE CLASS.

We find the following article in the last No. of the Dover Gazette. If such articles were more common, the better would it be for the community. There is too little of the moral, and too much of the bitter, partizan, and impracticable in the press generally. Every regular newspaper, no matter of what party, should possess a moral tone, and contain articles like this, calculated to cultivate and improve the affections—to foster a spirit of kindness and good will among men:—

"Life among the middle classes is too little noticed, and we fear too little known. We use the word middle, as that is one of the many conventional terms in use, and more readily conveys what we wish to express—rank equally remote from high and low—moreover we apply the word to the circumstances of individuals without reference to their real and moral worth. A great number of years and daily contact with all classes, a necessary consequence of our business, have induced us to form a very high opinion of the worth and character of middle class men. We feel always safe in appealing to them upon any subject—their action is always cool, deliberate and safe—their common place and business nature of their lives—their usual intelligence—their plain, honest way of living—their habits of industry and toil expanding their intellect and making the judgment clear, cause us to trust them much sooner than those of a higher grade, whom purse has made proud, luxury weak, independence arrogant and overbearing. The 'well born' are too often creatures of wealth only—dollars and cents have elevated their intelligence to an extraordinary degree—their education has crowded their minds with the falsest notions of men and things—they are ignorant of the great world of beings around them, and generally know little or nothing of their wants and wishes—their world is one of fancy, in which is generally found but two classes the high and ignoble. The high and commanding virtues are neglected—rectitude of conduct veneration for religion, honesty in every thing, and single heartedness of mind are qualities to little cared for. Their ideas of the importance of wealth very often leads them into a state of reckless independence, detaching one half from the value of character, and losing the restraints of moral principles, causing them to hold in too little estimation right, and trust too much in money as a substitute for goodness and virtue.

"The middle class attach the greatest importance to character—to preserve that unstained and immaculate is their great object. 'Those who live with this view in end must be honest and moral. Their education is usually such as brings out and nourishes the better feelings, strengthens the moral principle and encourages virtue. Among them humanity glows in all its beauty and excellence—the social virtues flourish in all their homes—they abound in good cheer, comfort and happiness—and are free, generous, virtuous and worthy. Their manner of living and occupation give them a better acquaintance of men and manners—they respect the rights of others, love liberty, and hate oppression. Their life is to us far preferable to that of those who live in opulence—give us the plain homely fare of these—the quiet peaceful home of the mechanic, rather than the mansions of the rich. The former tells us of health, peace, and genuine contentment, and domestic happiness—the latter of weakness, oftentimes disease, unhappiness, trouble and anxiety. We trust to the permanency of our country in ever increasing prosperity—they always prove true—they stand firm in defence of the right—they meet every call upon their benevolence and patriotism promptly—they are the poor of the rich and the safety of the government—they are the strictest true of others and give the same—their whole lives abound with all those 'noble qualities which the human mind loves to admire—honesty, virtue, and truth.'

Friends in adversity are not always found.

[From the Eastern Argus.]

THE MADISONIAN VERSUS CLAY.

The Madisonian, the organ of the present National Administration, at Washington, holds the following language towards Henry Clay, and his friends in Congress:—

"THE CAUCUS SYSTEM.

"It is currently reported and believed that there exists among the members of Congress, with a few honorable exceptions, a course of procedure altogether novel in the history of the Government, at least not dating father back than the extra session of ever-glorious memory. We do not mean to say, that the caucus has not been resorted to upon particular occasions by both parties in the country previous to the last summer session, but we believe that as a rigid system of party tactics, the origin and honor of its constant use are justly ascribable to the members of the present Congress.

"The practice to which we allude, is that of going into a secret party meeting generally at night, for purely party objects, and deciding by a majority of those present, (the minority yielding their consciences and judgments, and of course their duties, and rights and responsibilities into the keeping of the party majority)—whenever any question of importance arises for legislative action, or whenever the President of the United States submits a nomination to the Senate in which any faction feels interested.

"This we have reason to believe, may, to know, was the great engine put in motion by that party now claiming the 'Independent newspaper' for their organ during the extra session to 'hold Captain Tyler' under its malignant and grinding influence, the last Bank Bill, without reflection, in a spirit of party insanity, the majority of the party then consisting of effigy Whigs, was passed through the two Houses. It was known to many leading men in Congress that the President was anxious that the 'Fiscal Corporation Bill' should not be permitted to pass, yet under the controlling pledges exchanged in the secret iniquitous chamber of the Whig members of the lower House pushed it through that body, under the previous question, in forty-eight hours from the time of its inception in committee. Nearly the entire Senate knew the wishes of the President for its postponement and his unalterable resolution to veto the bill if presented in an amended form; and yet under the deadly influence of the Caucus system in that body, at the head and front of which presided Mr. Clay and the 'illustrious retired,' it was presented under such circumstances, by a Whig Congress, to a very treacherous President. Truly John Tyler should blush for this act of ingratitude and treachery to the Whig party and his friend Mr. Clay. Mr. Webster's letter to the Massachusetts Senators urged reasons for its postponement, which, with free and disinterested minds, would have insured co-operation from the Whig party. But the solemn pledge had been given in Caucus, and many a stout sghast, ridden by a majority, boasted and spurred for mischief into a faithless quagmire, without the liberty to oppose.

"The consequences of this Caucus commitment should be well known to, and appreciated by, the country. The consequence of foisting upon the President a weak and puerile measure is now felt and seen by the country. Shall not condign punishment be visited on those, the malicious and rabid spirit of the Whig party, who have brought the cause and the country in equal distress and disgrace? Will the people submit to have their rights and interests bartered away in caucus? Will they stand and see public agents who yield up the right of speech at the dictation of a Caucus, that Caucus controlled by some ambitious Presidential aspirant? Let the people put their feet upon the whole system. Who that is acquainted with the intelligence and honor of many members, who thus during the extra session, persecuted from Government, believe that this thing would have been done but for the imperial dictation of Caucus action—but for some iron rule from which there was no escape?

"The Caucus has the farther effect of centralizing and consolidating legislative action, by which all local feelings and interests are shut out and annihilated. If any man manifests against the will of the majority, he is immediately subjected to the knife. The politicians in Congress, and the Press out of Congress, make a deadly and uncompromising war upon him, and he is persecuted until he resigns his place, or is beaten from the field. With those factious appliances, from Government cannot last. The pillars of the edifice must yield if they are constantly shaken with so force a hand."

We hope the Whigs in this quarter will not deny the above statements from the acknowledged organ of their party at the seat of Government. After ringing all sorts of charges upon poor old King Caucus, and abusing him without intermission for twelve years in succession, they crowned him, Lord of all, at their famous Harrisburg Harrison Convention. He led their armies to the battle, armed with Log Cabins and Hard Cider, and gained the field. And, according to the Madisonian, he is installed in legal power, over the Whig members of Congress. To move without his imperial consent, is death to the Whig members of the House, or Senate. We ask the attention of the honest Whigs to the State of things detailed in the Madisonian. And we ask them to recollect also that the Madisonian is the acknowledged, and petted organ of their own President.

We trust that there are thousands upon thousands of honest Whigs, who voted for "Tippecanoe, and Tyler too" who are heartily sick of Whiggery, and who will not vote for the men or measures of the Whigs again, during the present generation, at least.

DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION.

A portion of the abolitionists are beginning to avow, as an object desired by them, that which has been always regarded as a necessary consequence of their conduct even if not desired. A "dissolution of the Union" is openly proclaimed as a thing for which all good friends of the anti-slavery cause are bound to pray. Such is the last demonstration of feeling growing out of the movement, and we regard it as one, and not among the most happy, of the signs of the times.

At a late meeting of the Middlesex County (Mass.) A. S. Society, the following resolutions, (among others,) were adopted:—

"Resolved, That for the North any longer to continue an alliance with the South, is basely to consent to wear the yoke of slavery, to sell their birth-right for a mess of pottage, and to be guilty of a sinful participation in a system that is unequalled in pollution, robbery, and piety.

"Resolved, That a repeal of the Union, between the North and the South, is called for, by every principle of justice, humanity, liberty, and religion."

We add, also, the following extract from a published letter of H. C. Wright, a leading abolitionist of Philadelphia, under the date of the 15th of last April:—

"An issue is now openly made, which abolitionists virtually made in their onset, and which, they ought to have made, distinctly and formally, had been generally enlarged; that our tonnage

We ought to have laid before the slaveholders, long ago, this alternative. You must abolish slavery or we shall dissolve the Union. Thus far, the Union, or, rather, the make believe Union, between the North and South, between Liberty and Slavery, has been a curse to the North, a curse to Civilization, and a curse to Humanity. It has proved a Union to enslave the North, and to wage war upon human rights. This piratical Congress is now being understood. The North have idolized it, but the people now see that they have worshipped a demon that is about to devour them.

"Thousands in Pennsylvania have made up, and are making up their minds to the alternative of a dissolution of the Union, or the abolition of slavery. DISSOLUTION, or ABOLITION, is discussed in kitchens, in parlors, in stages, cars, steamboats, in lyceums, in anti-slavery meetings, in stores, in the street, in counting-rooms, and in reading rooms, and on exchange. Be assured, thousands of petitions will, before one year closes, go up to Congress, bearing the only and final alternative to the South—DISSOLUTION or ABOLITION."

HARD TIMES.

It is very easy for people to believe that the existing times are particularly and unusually hard, and still more easy for them to be made to believe so, when they hear the fact constantly and confidently asserted. And the reason of this need not be sought in any very deep research. It depends upon the same principle, which causes men so often to think and to say, that a particular day has been warmer or colder, a particular season earlier or later, a particular winter more severe, or a particular storm more violent, than was ever known before. This is said too often to be, by any possibility, always true, and although "the oldest inhabitants," to quote the common phrase, "do not recollect" any such day, season, winter, or storm; yet it is very certain that they have occurred, and occurred many times. And it is just so with the complaint of "extraordinary" distress and "unparalleled" depression of business. It is made so constantly, as to be absurd upon its face. The truth seems to be, that actual, existing, and present events, make an impression, so much more powerful than events resting in recollection, that their comparative characteristics are misjudged and mistaken. Under the immediate pressure of extreme heat and extreme cold, we cannot imagine that we have ever suffered the like before. And so, too, when experiencing vicissitudes of trade and stagnation of industry, in all the vicissitudes of reality, we are apt to regard them, as unprecedented in severity and intensity.

The fact is, that in a very important sense, the times are always hard to a great majority of mankind. The great laws of our existence are such, that subsistence is only to be obtained by labor and painstaking, and such seem to be the unavoidable defects of social organizations, that undue promotions of toil and privation, shown upon particular classes. The great majority of mankind are always in difficulty, in respect of their private affairs; always obliged to exercise the extreme self denial to save themselves from utter destitution always limited by their indulgences; and always suffering, more or less from want. The times are always hard, and naturally seem harder this year than they were last year, harder now than ever before.

It is affirmed, that the general condition of our people is less favorable now, than it was from 1824 to 1828, during the period of a high tariff. The fact is directly the reverse, and yet the assertion obtains credit, even from those who have lived during both periods, and ought to know what the truth is. Compare the scale of prices during the two periods, and it appears indubitably, that the agricultural interest get better prices now, and can buy cheaper now, than they could in 1824-8. The difference will average one hundred per cent. in favor of the existing state of things. The fact has been showed, over and over again, by evidence in which there can be no deception or mistake. And yet the farmers are appealed to, to sustain this scheme of a high tariff, which has proved so destructive to their prosperity. The Virginia planter, who, during the disastrous period of 1824-8, was obliged to burn down his wheat crop, because it would not pay the expense of harvesting, is asked to go back to the system which robbed him of the fruits of his toil. Strange impudence, indeed, in those who make the request! And stranger infatuation still, if those who are asked to impoverish themselves, can be ejected into acquiescence!

We subjoin an interesting article from the New York Evening Post, which shows, very satisfactorily, that so far from being ruined by the partial approach to free trade, made during the last ten years, the country has exhibited and still exhibits, a teeming prosperity in all its great industrial interests.

We invite particular attention to that part of the article, which shows the great prosperity of the navigation of the country; an interest in which Maine has, in all respects, so large a share. [Age.]

From the N. Y. Evening Post.

"The times are blue," said a man to us, the other day, in Wall street. "The times are blue as ruin." Our reply was, that "they were hard enough—that was true—hard for the merchant, hard for the mechanic and laborer." "Yet," we continued, "hard as they are, those singular and inflexible things, figures—the statistics of trade and commerce—would seem to show, that for the last ten or twelve years, there has been a great increase in the substantial prosperity of the nation." This surprised our friend as much as he would have been surprised by hearing that his last packet of lottery tickets, imported directly from Washington, at an expense of \$120, had contained a high prize. "You talk strangely," said he, "recovering from his amazement; 'has not every thing been ruined? have not the merchants and the manufacturers both been destroyed for the want of a high tariff? have not our exports dwindled, our manufactures fallen, and our trade depressed?' We calmly answered, 'No,' and proposed to prove, from the most indubitable documents, the reports of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the census takers, that our exports, both of domestic produce and domestic manufactures, had been generally enlarged; that our tonnage

for commerce, both in the coasting and foreign trade, had expanded enormously; that the production of our staples, such as cotton, iron, &c., had swollen in value; and that even those branches of manufactures which are supposed to have suffered most under the reduction of duties effected by the compromise act, had grown in importance and prosperity. "It is true," we observed, "there is a temporary depression of business, but it is of the nature of a stagnation. It is temporary, and must shortly pass away." Our friend seemed relieved by the information, and promised to attend to what we should say upon the subject. Let us look, then, at a few facts first:

The value of the exports of the growth, produce, and manufacture of the U. States, for the year 1840, amounted to \$113,762,617

For the year 1829, the amount was 55,700,193

Showing an increase of 104 per cent. or 55,062,424

The tonnage in the United States in 1840 was, tons 2,180,763

In 1829 it was 1,200,977

Showing an increase of 73 per cent. or tons 919,786

The export of American manufactures in 1840, was \$12,848,840

The amount in 1829 was 5,412,320

Showing an increase of 137 per cent. or \$7,436,520

Let us now compare the astonishing increase exhibited above with other periods in our annals. The greatest value of domestic exports from 1800 to 1829, was in the year 1818, and amounted to \$73,864,437

The smallest value of exports to the same period, (exclusive of five years of embargo and war,) was in the year 1806, and amounted to \$41,263,727

\$32,600,710

The greatest difference, therefore, in this period, is only 79 per cent. and only 56 per cent. of the difference between the first year of Jackson and the last year of Van Buren.

The amount of tonnage in 1803, was 949,147

And in 1829 1,200,977

Increase in 26 years, 311,830

This increase is only 33 per cent., and is less than 34 per cent. of the increase in the administrations of Jackson and Van Buren.

The exports of American manufactures in 1818, amounted to \$1,777,000

And in 1829 they amounted to 5,412,320

Increase 3,635,320

The increase is 95 per cent., and is less than 35 1-2 per cent. of the increase between the first year of Jackson and the last of Van Buren.

It is also worthy of remark, that in 1840, our tonnage was, to the population, as 1 to 1080-10, and in 1840, it was as 1 to 782-100. Our domestic exports in 1830 were, to the population, as 1 to 1000, and in 1840, as 6 to 1000. Our export of manufactures was in 1830, in proportion to our population, 41 35-100 cents to each individual, and in 1840, it was 75 3-10 cents to each individual.

THE APPORTIONMENT.

The decisive vote, (98 to 59,) by which the House of Representatives adopted Mr. Briggs' ratio of representation, (50,179,) may be regarded as a settlement of the question, so far at least as the House can settle it. Under this ratio, the House will consist of 306 members—of which New York will have 48, Pennsylvania 34, Ohio 30, Virginia 21, &c. &c. No State will lose any of its representation, but there will be large fractions in some States, (Mississippi in particular,) and extremely small ones in others, as in Maine—as will be seen by the following:—

No. of Reps.	Fractions.
New York, 48	20,329
Pennsylvania, 34	17,049
Ohio, 30	14,097
Virginia, 21	6,443
Tennessee, 15	3,301
Massachusetts, 14	35,000
Kentucky, 14	4,418
Indiana, 13	33,537
North Carolina, 13	2,705
Georgia, 11	27,465
Maine, 10	3
Alabama, 9	37,782
South Carolina, 9	11,971
Illinois, 9	24,439
Maryland, 8	32,692
Missouri, 7	9,153
New Jersey, 7	22,155
Connecticut, 6	9,000
New Hampshire, 5	33,105
Vermont, 5	41,000
Louisiana, 5	35,135
Mississippi, 5	46,671
Michigan, 4	11,551
Rhode Island, 2	8,470
Arkansas, 2	30,421
Delaware, 1	26,864

306

This apportionment adds 64 to the present number of Representatives, 242—and should be followed up, if finally adopted, by a reduction of the per diem of members, or a limitation of the sessions of Congress—so far at least as not to add to the present Congressional expenses. The extension of the franking privilege to so many new members, ought also to be taken into consideration.—Albany Argus.

IN BANKRUPTCY.—Judge Story on the question of attachments has delivered his opinion that all attachments, on which judgment had not been rendered, made prior to the petition for Bankruptcy, became null and void upon the filing of said petition, and all property so attached, would be under the direction of this Court merging with the assets of said Bankrupts. But the attaching creditor would be entitled to all the costs accruing up to the date of the filing of the petition.

The English papers speak in terms of great indignation of the butchery of their army at Cabul, and make strong appeals to the sympathy of their

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We learn the city rem Several imp new Legisla Governor, olution was deuce, and l

"Resolved, concurring with that a committee port to meet a place shall this ascertain what unhappy count preferable and

In the afte Governor was ers to proceed dent that the Co

The Assen idence on the Governor l ing upon the to the new Co ed to the Sta stituted auth Argus.

The Journal tion of Gov. F Legislature announcement, atures of some a voy; and in the certain them reloli to part with which lies Sol were propriety of the St. John ing to Maine bi to Great Brita a national po advantage to u into the heart of his communica upon it, while annoyance to h of time, to get

—foreby if he be done without to compromise to the party wh a fair equivalent the subject is can parties, it can mutual satisfact

Mr. Ar sented to theC a block of lign block making ing snugly in ch of solid w shells an inch very small one exted that the ver for at least sters in this pl

A treaste ed that a few Newton, in dig on a large meta

